



TENNESSEE  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
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## TENNESSEE WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



Released Weekly April - November

2000 Weather Crop 6

Issued 3:00 P.M. , CDT 05/08/00

Week Ending May 7, 2000

### COTTON PLANTING OFF TO A GOOD START

Drier conditions and warmer temperatures during the first part of last week allowed **cotton** planting to get off to a good start. Twenty-five percent of the acreage had been planted as of Sunday, in line with last year and the five-year average. By mid-week, rain showers had once again returned and planting was put on hold. Growers are hoping for more favorable weather this week in order to resume their planting activities. Eighty-one percent of the State's **corn** acreage has currently been planted, with the majority of the remaining 19 percent to be planted for silage. As of Sunday, 65 percent of the crop had emerged. The **wheat** crop continues to be rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition, but is in need of sunshine and drier weather. Producers continue to find disease in some areas, and many are taking corrective measures as needed. Crop progress is running slightly ahead of normal with 94 percent headed. **Tobacco** transplanting started on a very limited basis last week with 6 percent of the acreage set by week's end. Most areas are ready to begin transplanting as soon as weather permits. Hay acreage throughout the State is currently rated in mostly good-to-fair condition. Many areas are reporting shorter than normal stands of grass due to the cool April weather. As of Sunday, 15 percent of the alfalfa and 11 percent of the grass hay had been cut. Many fields are mature and growers are just waiting for a period of dry weather. Four percent of the early group 3 and 4 **soybeans** have been planted thus far. The State's nurserymen are currently busy lining out, digging, and hauling trees and shrubs. **Strawberry** harvest has begun in many areas of the State. Four days were considered suitable for fieldwork this past week, with temperatures averaging 4 to 6 degrees above normal. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 21 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus.

#### CROP PROGRESS: Through May 7, 2000

#### CROP CONDITION: On May 5, 2000

Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Planted	81	70	89	83	Wheat	0	2	18	57	23
Corn - Emerged	65	40	61	N/A	Pastures	1	4	20	60	15
Soybeans - Planted	4	N/A	5	3	Alfalfa	0	2	22	59	17
Tobacco - Transplanted	6	N/A	7	8	Other Hay	0	4	24	56	16
Cotton - Planted	25	6	26	24	Cattle	0	2	21	62	15
Alfalfa Hay - First Cutting	15	N/A	15	11						
Other Hay - First Cutting	11	N/A	4	N/A						
Winter Wheat - Headed	94	73	89	82						

**CORN:** Most of the corn acreage to be harvested for grain has been planted, with only silage acreage left to be completed. Despite a slow start due to cool April conditions, 65 percent of the crop has emerged and was reported as being in good condition. There has been very few reports of farmers having to replant corn acreage this year.

**TOBACCO:** Six percent of the tobacco acreage has been set, on schedule with last year and the five-year average. Wet soil conditions are preventing many growers from getting into their fields at this time.

**COTTON:** Growers made excellent progress during the first half of last week before rain showers forced them out of their fields. Warm temperatures last week allowed earlier planted cotton to emerge and has helped promote growth. Growers are anxious to get back into their fields.

**WHEAT:** The crop continues to be rated in mostly good to excellent condition, and growers are treating for disease. Some have been forced to apply fungicides aerially due to wet field conditions. Dairy farmers are currently busy cutting wheat silage.

**PASTURES & HAY:** Farmers are harvesting hay in between the spring rain showers. Alfalfa harvest is slightly ahead of the five-year average, and harvest of grass hay is running ahead of a year ago. Pastures continue to show improvement with most rated in good-to-fair condition.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 05/07/00 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 05/07/00				Current Week	Rain	Current	Departure	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	05/07/00	Days	Since April 1	From Normal		
Ames_Plantation	85	51	70	+5	1.24	4	6.27	-0.68	128	-35
Bristol	85	39	66	+6	0.00	0	3.56	-0.59	63	+19
Brownsville_TN	81	55	70	+5	1.06	4	6.87	+0.14	123	+32
Chattanooga	86	47	70	+7	0.42	1	8.96	+3.68	142	+38
Clarksville_Sew	86	49	71	+9	1.69	4	8.51	+3.10	126	+18
Cookeville	85	42	67	+6	0.43	1	8.98	+3.09	71	+43
Covington	83	53	71	+6	0.88	2	4.53	-2.32	139	+3
Crossville_AP	83	43	66	+7	0.52	1	7.34	+1.35	69	+21
Dickson_AG	83	44	69	+6	1.12	3	6.81	+0.59	96	-18
Dover_1W	83	49	69	+7	1.09	2	8.29	+2.27	97	+16
Dyersburg	81	55	71	+5	1.00	6	8.12	+2.31	136	-25
Erwin_1W	84	40	64	+7	0.00	0	4.49	-0.53	52	-21
Huntingdon_Wate	82	45	68	+5	1.89	3	6.47	+0.61	69	-22
Jackson_AG	83	51	71	+7	0.61	4	5.58	-0.81	122	-5
Kingston_AG	84	47	68	+8	0.72	2	8.21	+2.50	92	+35
Knoxville_AP	84	44	68	+7	1.16	3	7.86	+3.25	97	+23
Lewisburg	85	36	66	+5	1.04	1	9.60	+3.63	61	-16
Lexington_TN	85	45	70	+7	1.77	4	8.17	+2.36	106	+73
Linden	85	39	67	+5	1.55	2	8.68	+2.55	76	-19
Martin	82	54	70	+7	1.36	6	6.00	-0.15	107	+0
Mc_Minnville_Tn	85	43	69	+6	0.63	2	7.42	+1.85	102	-39
Memphis_AG	83	55	70	+3	2.01	6	6.22	-0.46	130	-69
Milan	84	44	68	+5	1.46	4	5.85	-0.33	76	-32
Murfreesboro_5N	84	42	67	+4	0.61	2	7.59	+1.89	58	-113
Nashville	84	46	69	+6	0.54	4	6.68	+1.18	113	-6
Newcomb	87	37	65	+7	0.12	1	5.80	+0.15	60	+30
Oneida	85	41	64	+6	0.62	3	7.15	+1.50	44	-69
Pikeville	87	40	68	+6	0.15	1	7.63	+2.20	69	-11
Portland_TN	83	45	69	+8	0.57	1	7.35	+1.85	88	+16
Pulaski_Water_P	85	41	68	+3	0.01	1	9.50	+3.92	81	-52
Savannah_6SW	85	52	69	+3	0.67	3	6.91	+0.14	108	+9
Sparta_TN	86	38	67	+6	0.05	1	7.10	+1.29	94	+31
Springfield	85	43	69	+8	0.58	3	6.95	+1.55	87	+16
Springhill	85	45	69	+8	0.15	1	7.59	+1.23	105	+29
Union_City	81	48	69	+6	1.63	5	6.36	+0.44	86	-13
DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.      Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Copyright 1999: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved										

The Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by: National Weather Service; Extension Service; University of Tennessee; and, over 200 knowledgeable weather and crop reporters throughout the State.